

Applicant: Edward C. DeMeter
Serial No.: 10/635,791
Group A./U.: 1733

REMARKS

Claims 8-24 and 31-36 remain in the subject application with claims 8, 34, 35, and 36 in independent form. Claim 8 has been amended and claims 1-7 and 25-30 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 35 and 36 have been added. There is full support throughout the specification as originally filed for these amendments and new claims. Therefore, it is believed that no new matter has been introduced. Applicant appreciates allowance of claim 34.

Applicant thanks Examiner Crispino for conducting a telephonic interview on March 13, 2006. Although agreement was not reached, the resultant discussions clarified the current rejections and issues needing to be resolved.

Claims 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner has requested identification in the specification for the limitations “being shaped to conform with an adherent surface of the workpiece” and for the wave guide or lens “capable of redirecting radiation from said radiant energy delivery system.”

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner attention to paragraphs [0065]-[0067] of the specification as originally filed. Paragraph [0067] described the fixing surface as a gripper pin that is designed to conform to an underside surface of the workpiece. Also, with reference to Figure 3, the gripper pin is shaped to conform the workpiece such that the workpiece is bonded thereto. Paragraph [0065] and [0066], describe that the radiation bounces, i.e., is redirected, off a surface of the transmissive fixing surface. Again, Applicant

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respectfully submits that there is full support in and throughout the specification as originally filed the limitations of claims 32 and 33. As such, the §112 rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 11 stands objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Applicant has incorporated the limitations of claim 11 into new independent claims 35 and 36. There is full support throughout the specification and figures as originally filed for these new claims, and specifically attention should be directed toward paragraphs [0063]-[0067] of the specification as originally filed. Referring specifically to claim 35, the radiation transmittive fixing surface is defined as an adhesive receiving surface receiving an adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface and the radiation transmittive fixing surface is made of material selected from the group consisting of sapphire, diamond, single crystal silicon dioxide, ruby, cubic zirconia, and zirconium oxide. Claim 36 recites that the gripper pin is made of a material capable of transmitting the radiant energy emitted by the radiant energy source and is selected from the group consisting of sapphire, diamond, single crystal silicon dioxide, ruby, cubic zirconia, and zirconium oxide. It is believed that claims 35 and 36 are allowable and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yamada (United States Patent No. 5,981,361) and as being anticipated by Inoue et al. (United States Patent No. 5,423,931). Claims 10 and 20-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada or Inoue et al.

Applicant has amended claim 8 to further clarify the subject invention. Specifically, claim 8 recites that the adhesive work holding system comprises a fixture defining an outer periphery *capable of blocking transmissions* of radiation and at least one *discrete, radiation*

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transmittive fixing surface disposed within the outer periphery. The radiation transmittive fixing surface is *bonded to the fixture* and has an adhesive receiving surface receiving an adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface for the workpiece. Moreover, the radiation transmittive fixing surface is capable of transmitting the radiant energy emitted by the radiant energy delivery system toward the adhesive to activate the adhesive and bond the workpiece to the fixing surface.

Neither Yamada or Inoue et al. disclose each and every feature of claim 8 as amended. Specifically, Yamada does not disclose a discrete, radiation transmittive fixing surface disposed within an outer periphery of the fixture and defining an adhesive receiving surface receiving an adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface for the workpiece. Yamada discloses a lamp house 16 supporting a transparent vacuum chuck 31. A tape 6 having semiconductor chips 4 adhered thereto is secured to the vacuum chuck 31 by application of a vacuum drawn through the vacuum chuck 31. The subject invention replaces vacuum chucks as disclosed in Yamada to hold the workpiece. Therefore, Yamada does not disclose, teach, or suggest, the discrete, radiation transmittive fixing surface defining the adhesive receiving surface receiving the adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface for the workpiece.

Similarly, Inoue does not disclose a discrete, radiation transmittive fixing surface disposed within an outer periphery of the fixture and defining an adhesive receiving surface receiving an adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface for the workpiece. Inoue discloses an apparatus for removing a semiconductor from a board 4. The apparatus comprises a base 5, a heating and removing mechanism 6, an

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ultraviolet laser beam source 7, and an optical system 8 for directing the ultraviolet beam. Further, Inoue discloses that an infra-red source 46 may be used to pass infra-red radiation through the board 4, which is continuous. Therefore, Inoue does not disclose, teach, or suggest, the unique combination of the fixture and the discrete, radiation transmittive fixing surface defining the adhesive receiving surface receiving the adhesive such that the radiation transmittive fixing surface is a load bearing surface for the workpiece.

Since each and every feature of claim 8 is not disclosed, expressly or inherently, by any of the cited references, the §102 rejection is believed to be overcome and claim 8 is believed to be allowable. Claims 9-24 and 31-33, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 8, are also believed to be allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

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Date

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